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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/708,679	03/18/2004	Jianbo Lu	81095829FGT1911	2678

28549 7590 04/26/2005

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EXAMINER

BUTLER, DOUGLAS C

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3683

DATE MAILED: 04/26/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/708,679

Applicant(s)

LU ET AL.

Examiner

Douglas C. Butler

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 January 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-47 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-47 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. An action on the merits of claims 1-47 readable on the elected species G (Fig. 21) is included in this office action.
2. The IDS filed March 7, 2005 has been considered.
3. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).
4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Marton (US 5278554) or Gerum et al (5747683) or JP 62-255285 to Kawamura or Lee (US 6659245) in view of any one of the secondary references to Irikura (725) or Le (950) or Imaseki et al (298) or Korekane et al (597).

Making U-turns and recognizing or knowing that a U turn is being initiated is conventional as taught by each of the references to Marton (US005278554) or Gerum et al (5747683) or JP 62-255285 to Kawamura and Lee (US006659245).

It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to one having ordinary skill in the art to which the invention pertains to modify the vehicle components


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such as steering, braking, drive torque, throttle, steering wheel actual or modeled characteristics and rates to achieve the type of U-turn desired as to yaw, speed of turning or vehicle speed as desired to achieve safe turning so as to avoid accidents and reduce discomfort to the vehicle operator based upon the steering wheel as taught by each of the secondary references in that using the steering wheel to make U-turns is well known to persons skilled in the art to facilitate turns.

6. Applicants' arguments have been considered. Applicants are encouraged to submit claims commensurate with applicants' contribution in the art. The breadth of the claims is unduly broad. Consider all-wheel drive vehicles in which all wheels are turned in response to the turning of the steering wheel in a manner that facilitates the U-turns.

SB The examiner, rather than make this action final, ^{respectfully} extends another opportunity for applicants to submit claims consistent with applicants' contribution in the art.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Exmr. Butler at telephone number 571-272-7115.

 4/21/05
DOUGLAS C. BUTLER
PRIMARY EXAMINER
AV3683

Butler/vs
April 20, 2005